

**REPORT OF THE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
OF
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**DOCKET NO. 2000-001-E
CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY**

REPORT OF UTILITIES DEPARTMENT
SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
DOCKET NO. 2000-001-E
CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

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REPORT OF UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY REPORT OF FUEL ADJUSTMENT ANALYSIS

Scope of Examination

The Commission's Utilities Department Staff analyzed the Company's procedures and practices pertaining to its fuel operation. Staff's examination consisted of the following:

- 1) Review of the Company's monthly fuel reports including:
 - a) Power Plant Performance Data Reports
 - b) Major Unit Outage Reports
 - c) Generation Mix
 - d) Generation Statistics
 - e) Retail Comparison of MWH Sales
 - f) Retail Comparison of Fuel Costs
- 2) Review of the Company's currently approved Adjustment for Fuel Costs Rider.
- 3) History of Cumulative Recovery Account.
- 4) Calculation of fuel costs to be included in the base rates for April 2000 through March 2001.

REVIEW OF COMPANY'S MONTHLY FUEL REPORTS

The Company files with this Commission monthly reports that include power plant performance data, major unit outages, generation mix, and other reports that provide the Staff pertinent data on which to evaluate the Company's fuel operating expenses.

Selected information from the Power Plant Performance Data Reports for nuclear and fossil plants is shown on Exhibit No. 1. It includes a listing of capacity factors and equivalent availability factors for each unit by month for the period and also includes the yearly capacity factors (1997-1999) and the lifetime (cumulative) capacity factors. These factors are expressed as a percentage. This percentage figure can be a useful index when attempting to locate or identify a particular problem or unusual occurrence.

Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-27-865 (Supp. 1999) certain criteria are established for review of a utility's effort to minimize fuel expenses. In evaluating a utility's fuel costs under this section, it is necessary to examine and determine whether the utility has made every reasonable effort to minimize fuel costs associated with the operation of its nuclear generation system while "giving due regard to reliability of service, economical generation mix, generating experience of comparable facilities and minimization of the total cost of providing service."

The Nuclear Unit Outage Report considers each outage experienced by unit, giving the inclusive dates of the outage, hours down, type of outage (Scheduled or Forced), the reason for the outage, and the corrective action taken. This information covers the period being considered in this proceeding and is shown in Exhibit No. 2A. Staff compiled this data through review of Company documents, NRC documents, and interviews with Company personnel. The Company's Nuclear Units performed very well during the period January 1999 through December 1999. The Company's nuclear system incurred a 1.5% forced outage rate during this test period.

The Fossil Unit Outage Report is a listing of plants by unit, duration of outage (greater than 100 hours), reason for down time, and corrective action taken to return the plant to service. The information specifically reviewed for this proceeding is for the months of January 1999 through December 1999 and is included in Exhibit No. 2B. These Units' Availability Factors were in the 95 plus percentile for the greater portion of this period. The Company's base load fossil units achieved an equivalent availability of 90.4% for the period.

Staff reviewed and compiled a percentage Generation Mix statistic sheet for the Company's fossil, nuclear and hydraulic plants for January 1999 through December 1999. The fossil generation ranged from a high of 59% to a low 46%. The nuclear generation ranged from a high of 53% to a low of 41%. The percentage of generation by hydro ranged from a high of 2% to a low of 0%. This information is included in Exhibit No. 3. The Staff also collected and reviewed certain Generation Statistics of Major Plants for the 12 months ending December 31, 1999. This data is presented on Exhibit No. 4. This Exhibit shows the Company's major plants by name, type of fuel used, fuel cost in cents per kilowatt-hour to operate, and total megawatt-hours generated for the period. The nuclear fueled Robinson Plant was lowest in cost at 0.47_cents per kilowatt-hour. The highest amount of generation of 14,649,653 megawatt-hours was produced at the Roxboro Station.

Utilities Department Exhibit No. 5 shows a comparison of the Company's original retail megawatt-hour (MWH) estimated sales to the actual sales for the period from January 1999 through December 1999. The original projections ranged from an under-estimate of 4.25% in August 1999 to an over-estimate of 16.43% in May 1999 with a total over-estimate of 4.97% for the period.

Utilities Department Exhibit No. 6 shows a comparison of the Company's original fuel cost projections to the costs actually experienced for the months of January 1999 through December 1999. The original projections ranged from an over-estimate of 3.02% for November 1999 to an under-estimate of 22.62% for March 1999. The difference between actual and original projection of these fuel costs is further delineated graphically on Utilities Department Exhibit No. 7.

REVIEW OF THE COMPANY'S CURRENTLY APPROVED RETAIL ADJUSTMENT FOR FUEL COSTS

Staff has reviewed the Company's currently approved Retail Adjustment for Fuel Costs Rider and found it to continue to operate properly. Therefore Staff does not recommend any modifications at this time. Exhibit No. 8 is a copy of the Company's currently approved Adjustment for Fuel Costs Rider.

HISTORY OF THE CUMULATIVE RECOVERY ACCOUNT

Exhibit No. 9 is a history of the cumulative recovery account balances from inception in 1979 to December 1999.

CALCULATION OF BASE RATE FUEL COST COMPONENT FOR APRIL 2000 THROUGH MARCH 2001.

Utilizing the currently projected sales and fuel cost figures for the period April 2000 through March 2001 and including the projected under-recovery balance of \$17,967,157 in the cumulative recovery account through December 1999 (See Auditing Exhibit G), the average fuel expense is estimated to be 1.499 cents per kilowatt-hour. Applying this fuel factor to the period would create an ending period estimated \$15,335 under-collection in the cumulative recovery account.

The Commission has consistently expressed its expectation that the Company exercise all reasonable prudence and efficiency in its fuel purchasing practices and aggressively control the operation and maintenance of its production facilities to assure the lowest fuel costs possible. Also, the Commission has directed the Staff to monitor the Company's plant operations and fuel purchasing to insure that any inefficient or negligent practice is brought to the Commission's attention.

Exhibit No. 10 is a table of Projections of the Cumulative Recovery Account for various fuel base levels for the twelve month period ending March 2001. Also indicated in the table are the projected results using the current fuel factor base component of 1.122 cents/KWH.

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
POWER PLANT PERFORMANCE DATA (%) REPORT

CAPACITY FACTOR	MW RATING	LIFE TIME	YEAR 1997	YEAR 1998	YEAR 1999	JAN 1999	FEB 1999	MAR 1999	APR 1999	MAY 1999	JUN 1999	JUL 1999	AUG 1999	SEP 1999	OCT 1999	NOV 1999	DEC 1999
BRUNSWICK 1	820	60.7	102.0	88.6	97.4	93.2	102.8	102.7	101.2	102.2	101.6	98.9	89.6	77.0	102.4	95.2	102.3
BRUNSWICK 2	811	58.2	91.8	98.0	85.8	101.8	100.0	91.1	47.8	19.4	93.4	100.6	93.4	76.6	101.8	102.4	101.7
HARRIS1	860	82.2	78.5	89.1	96.2	93.6	98.5	69.0	101.1	100.5	99.7	98.8	99.1	99.2	101.1	101.2	93.0
ROBINSON 2	683	70.0	102.2	92.0	95.0	101.8	107.7	107.3	106.2	105.4	104.1	103.2	101.6	71.0	20.6	106.0	106.9
TOTAL NUCLEAR	3174	67.9	93.1	91.9	93.6	97.3	102.0	91.6	88.6	81.3	99.5	100.2	95.7	81.6	84.3	101.0	100.6

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EXHIBIT NO. 1

AVAILABILITY FACTOR	MW RATING	JAN 1999	FEB 1999	MAR 1999	APR 1999	MAY 1999	JUN 1999	JUL 1999	AUG 1999	SEP 1999	OCT 1999	NOV 1999	DEC 1999
MAYO 1	745	81.0	99.7	99.3	74.6	46.0	99.1	99.2	99.7	84.8	48.0	67.4	90.8
ROXBORO 2	670	91.3	90.8	99.7	99.2	89.3	81.0	99.8	99.8	93.7	99.5	77.9	55.1
ROXBORO 3	707	82.7	100.0	91.3	99.4	92.4	92.7	97.3	95.4	95.3	99.2	74.1	96.4
ROXBORO 4	700	99.9	94.4	99.9	54.0	97.0	85.9	95.1	98.2	99.7	83.6	96.4	97.7
BRUNSWICK 1	820	90.4	100.0	100.0	98.5	99.7	99.9	97.6	88.6	75.5	100.0	92.7	99.6
BRUNSWICK 2	811	99.2	98.0	91.4	46.8	19.3	92.2	99.3	92.9	75.3	99.5	99.9	99.1
HARRIS 1	860	92.2	96.8	69.3	99.9	99.9	99.4	98.8	99.1	98.9	100.0	99.8	91.7
ROBINSON 2	683	94.8	100.0	100.0	99.8	99.8	99.8	100.0	99.7	71.2	20.4	99.8	100.0

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
NUCLEAR UNIT OUTAGE REPORT
January 1, 1999 – December 31, 1999

<u>NO.</u>	<u>DATE OFF</u>	<u>DATE ON</u>	<u>HOURS/TYPE*</u>	<u>REASON FOR OUTAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTION</u>
<u>BRUNSWICK UNIT 1</u>				
1.	01/23/99	01/25/99	47.03/F	Unit was manually taken off-line when plant operating limits were exceeded for reactor recirculation pump flow and reactor power during servicing of the 1A reactor recirculation pump.
2.	08/29/99	09/02/99	80.30/S	Unit was taken off-line per plant technical specifications in anticipation of Hurricane Dennis.
3.	09/15/99	09/20/99	108.70/S	Unit was taken off-line per plant technical specifications in anticipation of Hurricane Floyd.
4.	11/05/99	11/07/99	42.88/F	Unit was manually scrambled when a trip signal was received during an over speed trip test on the 1B reactor feed pump, due to inadequate pressure on the by-pass switch.
<u>BRUNSWICK UNIT 2</u>				
1.	03/29/99	04/01/99	66.50/F	Unit taken out of service due to high vibration reading on number 9 main turbine bearing. Failed sensor was repaired and unit returned to service.
2.	04/17/99	05/23/99	872.82/S	Unit was taken off-line for scheduled refueling and maintenance.
3.	05/23/99	05/23/99	1.10/S	Routine after refueling turbine over speed trip test.
4.	06/28/99	06/30/99	43.70/F	Unit forced off line due to clogged cooling water intake screens caused by a large school of fish. Fish cleared and unit returned to service.
5.	08/29/99	09/01/99	51.00/S	Unit was taken off-line per plant technical specifications in anticipation of Hurricane Dennis.

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
NUCLEAR UNIT OUTAGE REPORT
January 1, 1999 – December 31, 1999

<u>NO.</u>	<u>DATE OFF</u>	<u>DATE ON</u>	<u>HOURS/TYPE*</u>	<u>REASON FOR OUTAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTION</u>
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BRUNSWICK UNIT 2

6.	09/15/99	09/21/99	148.20/S	Unit was taken off-line per plant technical specifications in anticipation of Hurricane Floyd.
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HARRIS UNIT 1

1.	01/14/99	01/16/99	43.57/F	Inadvertent under voltage trip signal was inserted during routine calibration and testing. Procedures were revised to minimize possible recurrence of this type of incident.
2.	03/07/99	03/08/99	18.25/S	Unit removed from service to perform maintenance to a failed blow down valve on the B steam generator.
3.	03/12/99	03/19/99	174.12/F	A loose stroke adjustment screw and sticking pilot valve on the C feedwater regulating valve forced the unit off line. Repairs and other maintenance were performed, and unit returned to service.
4.	12/14/99	12/15/99	38.72/F	Electrical motor on the A condensate pump failed, resulting in the unit trip. Motor replaced, and unit returned to service.

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EXHIBIT NO. 2A
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CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
 NUCLEAR UNIT OUTAGE REPORT
 January 1, 1999 – December 31, 1999

<u>NO.</u>	<u>DATE OFF</u>	<u>DATE ON</u>	<u>HOURS/TYPE*</u>	<u>REASON FOR OUTAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTION</u>
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ROBINSON UNIT 2

- | | | | | |
|----|----------|----------|----------|---|
| 1. | 01/08/99 | 01/10/99 | 34.32/S | Unit was brought down to perform maintenance on a valve and repair a small leak in an instrument sensing line. Unit was then returned to service. |
| 2. | 09/25/99 | 10/24/99 | 715.33/S | The unit was taken out of service for a planned refueling, periodic and preventative maintenance along with required testing and planned modifications. |

TYPE* F- Forced S- Scheduled

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
 BASE LOAD FOSSIL UNIT OUTAGE REPORT
 (100 HRS OR GREATER DURATION)
 January 1, 1999 – December 31, 1999

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>HRS/TYPE*</u>	<u>REASON FOR OUTAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTION</u>
JAN 99	Roxboro 3	119.83/S	Unit was taken out of service to remove and service the reheat stop valve screens, to inspect the packing on the main steam check valves, and other maintenance.
FEB 99	None		
MAR 99	None		
APR 99	Mayo 1	175.02/S	Unit removed from service due to high opacity readings indicating precipitator problems. Inspection, repairs, and other maintenance were performed, and unit returned to service.
	Roxboro 4	330.20/S	Annual boiler inspection and overhaul plus other periodic maintenance and testing performed.
MAY 99	Mayo 1	229.05/S	Annual boiler inspection and overhaul.
JUN 99	None		
JUL 99	None		
AUG 99	None		
SEPT 99	None		

TYPE* F – Forced S – Scheduled

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
 BASE LOAD FOSSIL UNIT OUTAGE REPORT
 (100 HRS OR GREATER DURATION)
 January 1, 1999 – December 31, 1999

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>HRS/TYPE*</u>	<u>REASON FOR OUTAGE AND CORRECTIVE ACTION</u>
OCT 99	Mayo 1	130.30/S	Unit taken off line to repair tube leaks in the second superheater section of the boiler.
NOV 99	Mayo 1	157.52/S	Boiler tube leaks caused by foreign material from the damaged rear superheat spray nozzles. Tube leaks were repaired and nozzle replaced and unit returned to service.
	Roxboro 2	398.63/S	Annual boiler inspection/overhaul and planned and periodic maintenance. Additional outage activities included replacement of feedwater heaters, installation of a new precipitator division wall, upgrade of the 2A boiler feed pump, condenser work, and rebuild of the main steam stop valves.
	Roxboro 3	102.25/S	Annual boiler inspection/overhaul and planned and periodic maintenance.
DEC 99	None		
TYPE* F – Forced S – Scheduled			

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

GENERATION MIX

JANUARY 1, 1999 - DECEMBER 31, 1999

1999 MONTH	FOSSIL %	NUCLEAR %	HYDRO %
JANUARY	49	49	2
FEBRUARY	47	52	1
MARCH	54	45	1
APRIL	52	47	1
MAY	55	43	2
JUNE	52	47	1
JULY	57	42	1
AUGUST	59	41	0
SEPTEMBER	57	43	0
OCTOBER	54	46	0
NOVEMBER	46	53	1
DECEMBER	52	47	1

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

GENERATION STATISTICS OF MAJOR PLANTS

JANUARY 1, 1999 - DECEMBER 31, 1999

PLANT	TYPE FUEL	AVERAGE FUEL COST (CENTS/KWH*)	GENERATION (MWH)
Harris	Nuclear	0.48	6,072,770
Robinson 2	Nuclear	0.47	5,684,485
Brunswick 1	Nuclear	0.50	5,715,396
Brunswick 2	Nuclear	0.50	4,977,925
Robinson 1	Coal	1.64	970,157
Weatherspoon	Coal	2.35	671,394
Asheville	Coal	1.49	2,438,045
Roxboro	Coal	1.59	14,649,653
Sutton	Coal	1.85	2,693,035
Cape Fear	Coal	1.78	1,742,783
Mayo	Coal	1.80	3,380,072
Lee	Coal	1.93	1,714,394

(*) The average fuel costs for coal-fired plants include oil cost for start-up and flame stabilization.

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
SOUTH CAROLINA RETAIL COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED TO ACTUAL ENERGY SALES FOR 1999

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
[1] ESTIMATED SALES [MWH]	578,843	582,946	578,339	553,936	585,189	627,656	708,261	684,435	647,552	562,529	568,042	604,893	7,282,621
[2] ACTUAL SALES [MWH]	578,846	509,236	586,767	531,744	502,625	598,248	632,624	714,837	666,705	529,493	498,743	587,804	6,937,672
[3] AMOUNT DIFFERENCE [1]-[2]	-3	73,710	-8,428	22,192	82,564	29,408	75,637	-30,402	-19,153	33,036	69,299	17,089	344,949
[4] PERCENT DIFFERENCE [3]/[2]	-0.0005%	14.47%	-1.44%	4.17%	16.43%	4.92%	11.96%	-4.25%	-2.87%	6.24%	13.89%	2.91%	4.97%

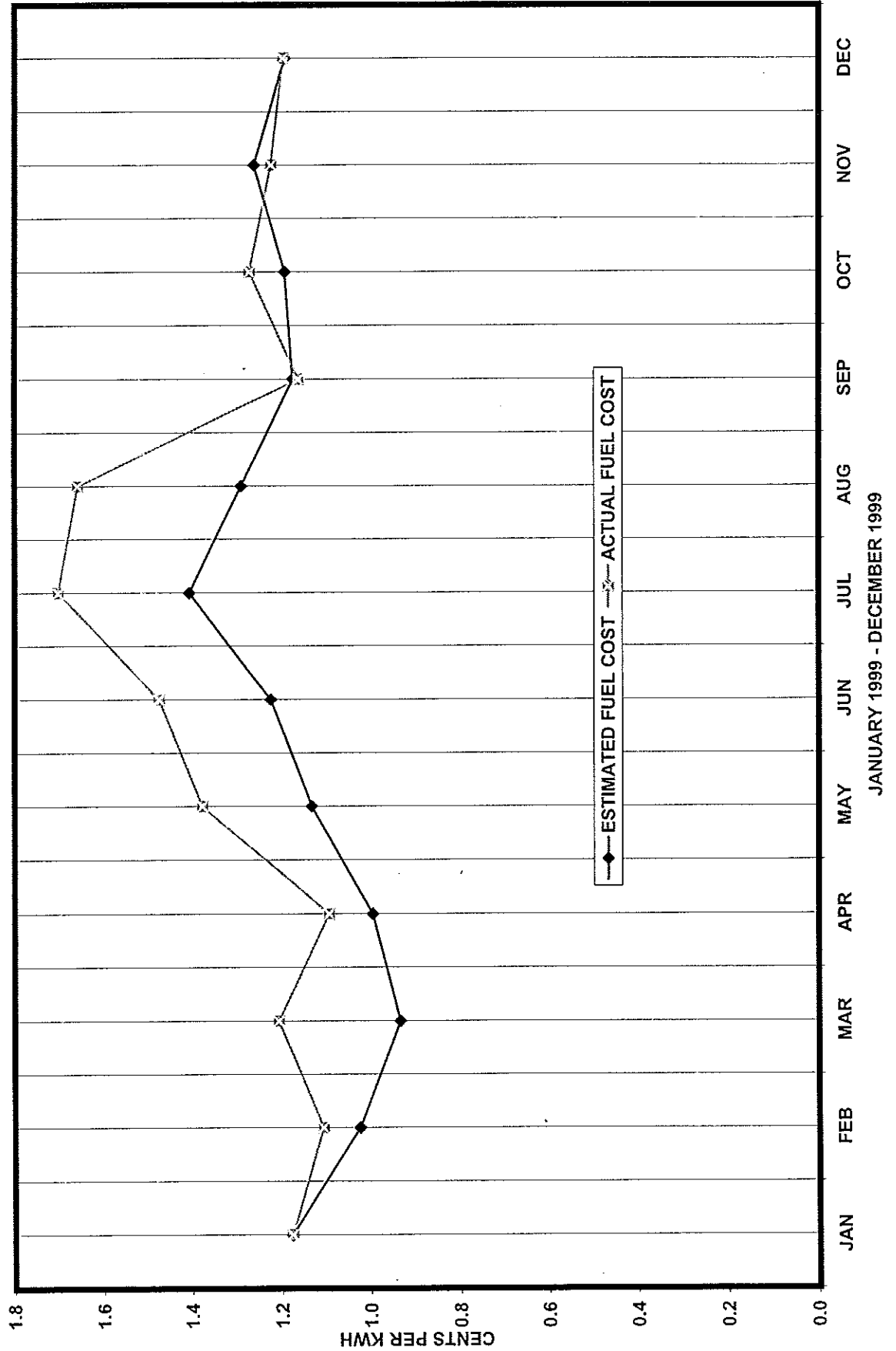
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 EXHIBIT NO. 5

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
SOUTH CAROLINA RETAIL COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED TO ACTUAL FUEL COST FOR 1999

	<u>JAN</u>	<u>FEB</u>	<u>MAR</u>	<u>APR</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUN</u>	<u>JUL</u>	<u>AUG</u>	<u>SEP</u>	<u>OCT</u>	<u>NOV</u>	<u>DEC</u>
[1] ESTIMATED FUEL COST PROJECTION	0.01177	0.01024	0.00934	0.00995	0.01132	0.01224	0.01406	0.01289	0.01175	0.01193	0.01261	0.01193
[2] ACTUAL FUEL COST EXPERIENCE	0.01177	0.01106	0.01207	0.01093	0.01377	0.01474	0.01702	0.01659	0.01163	0.01271	0.01224	0.01197
[3] AMOUNT IN BASE	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122	0.01122
[4] VARIANCE FROM ACTUAL [1-2]/[2]	0.00%	-7.41%	-22.62%	-8.97%	-17.79%	-16.96%	-17.39%	-22.30%	1.03%	-6.14%	3.02%	-0.33%

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EXHIBIT NO. 6

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY
ESTIMATED TO ACTUAL FUEL COST



Carolina Power & Light Company
(South Carolina Only)

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RIDER NO. 39
ADJUSTMENT FOR FUEL COSTS

APPLICABILITY

This adjustment is applicable to and is a part of the Utility's South Carolina retail electric rate schedules.

The Public Service Commission has determined that the costs of fuel in an amount to the nearest one-thousandth of a cent, as determined by the following formula, will be included in the base rates to the extent determined reasonable and proper by the Commission:

$$F = \frac{E}{S} + \frac{G}{S_1}$$

Where:

F = Fuel cost per kilowatt-hour included in base rate, rounded to the nearest one-thousandth of a cent.

E = Total projected system fuel costs:

- (A) Fuel consumed in the Utility's own plants and the Utility's share of fuel consumed in jointly owned or leased plants. The cost of fossil fuel shall include no items other than those listed in Account 151 of the Commission's Uniform System of Accounts for Public Utilities and Licensees and the cost of SO₂ emission allowances recorded in FERC Account 509 (allowance cost). The cost of nuclear fuel shall be that as shown in Account 518 excluding rental payments on leased nuclear fuel and except that, if Account 518 also contains any expense for fossil fuel which has already been included in the cost of fossil fuel, it shall be deducted from this account.

Plus

- (B) Purchased power fuel costs and allowance costs such as those incurred in unit power and Limited Term power purchases where the fuel costs and applicable allowance cost associated with energy purchased are identifiable and are identified in the billing statement.

Plus

- (C) Interchange power fuel costs and applicable allowance cost such as Short Term, Economy, and other where the energy is purchased on economic dispatch basis.

Energy receipts that do not involve money payments such as Diversity energy and payback of storage energy are not defined as purchased or interchange power relative to this fuel calculation.

Minus

- (D) The cost of fuel and applicable allowance cost recovered through intersystem sales including the fuel costs and applicable allowance cost related to economy energy sales and other energy sold on an economic dispatch basis.

Energy deliveries that do not involve billing transactions such as Diversity energy and payback of storage are not defined as sales relative to this fuel calculation.

S = Projected system kilowatt-hour sales excluding any intersystem sales.

G = Cumulative difference between jurisdictional fuel revenues billed and fuel expenses at the end of the month preceding the projected period utilized in E and S.

S₁ = Projected jurisdictional kilowatt-hour sales for the period covered by the fuel costs included in E.

The appropriate revenue-related tax factor is to be included in these calculations.

The fuel cost (F) as determined by Public Service Commission of South Carolina is 1.122 cents per kilowatt-hour, which shall remain in effect until superseded by a subsequent Commission order.

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

HISTORY OF CUMULATIVE RECOVERY ACCOUNT

<u>PERIOD ENDING</u>	<u>OVER (UNDER) \$</u>
March 1979 – Automatic Fuel Adjustment in Effect	
December 1979	1,104,730
September 1980	(12,000,131)
March 1981	(4,060,364)
August 1981	(12,113,832)
March 1982	(935,412)
September 1982	(6,881,796)
March 1983	(2,259,114)
September 1983	(3,264,694)
March 1984	109,270
September 1984	2,172,859
March 1985	(2,317,008)
September 1985	745,913
March 1986	1,972,280
September 1986	(696,805)
March 1987	2,408,354
September 1987	3,310,059
March 1988	(3,964,888)
September 1988	(5,737,541)
March 1989	(8,125,496)
September 1989	(5,875,641)
March 1990	(9,311,149)
September 1990	(658,614)
March 1991	1,403,023
September 1991	4,661,988
March 1992	5,201,112
September 1992	(6,712,920)
March 1993	(9,563,180)
September 1993	0*
March 1994	(1,010,684)
September 1994	1,975,939
March 1995	7,408,161
September 1995	2,011,489
December 1996	186,139
December 1997	(6,212,396)
December 1998	(14,334,022)
December 1999	(17,967,157)**

*Eliminated \$14,011,263 per Commission Order No. 93-865

**Reduced by \$6,500,000 per Commission Order No. 1999-324

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

PROJECTIONS OF THE CUMULATIVE RECOVERY ACCOUNT
FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD ENDING
MARCH 2001

	FUEL BASE	PROJECTED CUMULATIVE OVER/(UNDER) RECOVERY (\$)
	1.110	(27,737,829)
CURRENT FACTOR	1.122	(26,882,636)
	1.200	(21,323,884)
	1.300	(14,197,279)
	1.400	(7,070,674)
	1.450	(3,507,372)
	1.475	(1,725,720)
	1.480	(1,369,390)
	1.490	(656,730)
	1.495	(300,399)
	1.496	(229,133)
	1.497	(157,867)
	1.498	(86,601)
ZERO UNDER	1.499	(15,335)
ZERO OVER	1.500	55,931
	1.501	127,197
	1.502	198,463
	1.505	412,261
	1.510	768,592
	1.520	1,481,252
	1.530	2,193,913
	1.540	2,906,573
	1.545	3,262,903
	1.550	3,619,234
	1.575	5,400,885
	1.600	7,182,536